

Page Denied

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20308

83-2560/1
3455

VIA LDX

~~SECRET~~

May 19, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR CHARLES HILL
Executive Secretary
Department of State

COL. JOHN STANFORD
Executive Secretary
Department of Defense

LTC. DENNIS J. STANLEY
Special Assistant
Joint Chiefs of Staff/J-5

Executive Secretary
Central Intelligence Agency

25X1

JOHN TIERNEY
Executive Secretary
U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency

SUBJECT: MBFR Instructions (C)

Attached are the instructions for the MBFR negotiations which the President has approved as a result of the National Security Council meeting of May 18. (S)

Robert M. Kimmitt
Robert M. Kimmitt
Executive Secretary

Tab A MBFR Instructions

DCI
EXEC
REG

~~SECRET~~

Declassify on: OADR

SECRET

INSTRUCTIONS
TO
AMBASSADOR ABRAMOWITZ

1. The President has authorized an intense bilateral exploration of Soviet flexibility on the verification issue in order to achieve genuine and timely progress in the MBFR negotiations.

2. This exploration will be based on the following approach:

a. The US has reviewed its position on the Vienna negotiations and has reaffirmed its view that substantial verifiable reductions to parity in military manpower in Central Europe would enhance stability and reduce the risks of conflict in Europe.

b. The US noted with interest that the latest Eastern proposals confirmed the interest of the Soviet leadership in reaching the agreed common ceilings of 900,000 soldiers and airmen, with a subceiling of 700,000 ground forces. The US also noted with interest that these proposals endorse the principle that post-reductions levels, as well as reductions, should be verified and that reductions to parity by all direct participants should be negotiated within a single agreement.

c. If the East is willing to accept the entire package of associated measures for verification which the West has proposed, there is flexibility in the U.S. position on data agreement prior to reductions.

d. Large asymmetrical reductions to parity will be involved in any MBFR agreement, and at some stage verification must lead to data agreement or data will be confronted as a treaty compliance issue.

3. The Secretary of State will be responsible for closely held consultations on this approach with the UK and the FRG.

4. The Secretary of State will be responsible for directing the bilateral exploration with the Soviet Union through an appropriate channel.

SECRET